



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

Brodeur et al.

Examiner:

Thaler, M.H.

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COMPOSITE TUBULAR

PROSTHESES

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail,

postpaid in an envelope, addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

on June 29, 2004

Signed: K. Tillman/ K. Sillman

RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated April 30, 2004, the following response is being submitted. Reconsideration is respectfully requested. As this response is being submitted within two-months of the mailing date of the Office Action, a reply by the three month due date is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Specification being on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to Drawings begin on page 8 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.